



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Committee Bill No. 5205

LCO No. 4063

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE CONNPACE PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-492 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) Eligibility for participation in the program shall be limited to any
4 resident (1) who is sixty-five years of age or older or who is disabled,
5 (2) whose annual income, if unmarried, is less than [thirteen thousand
6 eight] seventeen thousand five hundred dollars, or whose annual
7 income, if married, when combined with that of [his] such resident's
8 spouse is less than [sixteen thousand six] twenty thousand five
9 hundred dollars, (3) who is not insured under a policy which provides
10 full or partial coverage for prescription drugs once a deductible
11 amount is met, and (4) on and after September 15, 1991, who pays an
12 annual twenty-five-dollar registration fee to the Department of Social
13 Services. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (2) of this
14 subsection, a resident may be eligible to participate in the program
15 provided such resident submits evidence satisfactory to the
16 department that such resident has paid an amount for prescription
17 drugs during the same calendar year in which such resident has

18 submitted an application for assistance under the program that is
19 equal to or greater than the amount by which the annual income of the
20 resident exceeds the income limits established under this subsection.
21 Such resident shall be eligible to participate in the program through
22 December thirty-first of the calendar year in which such resident has
23 submitted an application for assistance under the program. In the
24 event a resident is determined to be ineligible to participate in the
25 program due to annual income in excess of the income limits
26 established under this subsection, the department shall provide
27 written notification to such resident of (A) the amount by which the
28 annual income of the resident exceeds the income limits established
29 under this subsection, and (B) the resident's ability to qualify for
30 eligibility under the program provided such resident submits evidence
31 satisfactory to the department that such resident has paid an amount
32 for prescription drugs during the same calendar year in which such
33 resident has submitted an application for assistance under the program
34 that is equal to or greater than the amount by which the annual income
35 of the resident exceeds such income limits. On January 1, 1998, and
36 annually thereafter, the commissioner shall, by the adoption of
37 regulations in accordance with chapter 54, increase the income limits
38 established under this subsection over those of the previous fiscal year
39 to reflect the annual inflation adjustment in Social Security income, if
40 any. Each such adjustment shall be determined to the nearest one
41 hundred dollars.

42 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the annual income limits of elderly or disabled persons eligible to participate in the ConnPACE program thereby assisting such persons with the escalating cost of prescription drugs and to allow persons to deduct prescription drug expenses from the annual income limits for purposes of determining ConnPACE eligibility.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. CONWAY, 75th Dist.; REP. JARJURA, 74th Dist.
REP. BERGER, 73rd Dist.; REP. FRITZ, 90th Dist.
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